

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /063 W

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O 091117Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8916

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4880

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR NL EG

SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO
NETHERLANDS

1. MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR RUTTEN JUST TELEPHONED EMBASSY TO
SAY THAT EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR HAD COME IN ON INSTRUCTIONS
CANCELLING ANTICIPATED VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMI TO
THE HAGUE SEPTEMBER 13. TWO REASONS WERE GIVEN: THE SITUA-
(#)

REASONS AS SOMEWHAT IMPLAUSIBLE SINCE THEY
WERE UNAWARE

OF ANY DETERIORATION IN LEBANESE SITUATION
AQDWRE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT WERE
ALREADY WELL LAUNCHED. CANCELLATION WAS ESPECIALLY SUR-
PRISING SINCE ONLY YESTERDAY DUTCH HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH
EGYPTIAN EMBASSY HERE AND WITH MFA IN CAIRO ON LAST-
MINUTE ARRANGEMENTS. RUTTEN OPINED THAT SOMETHING
UNEXPECTED MUST HAVE HAPPENED. HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY
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SNAG IN DUTCH-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS THAT COULD HAVE BEEN

RESPONSIBLE AND NOTED THAT EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR HAD MADE PROFUSE APOLOGIES IN ANNOUNCING CANCELLATION OF VISIT.

2. RUTTEN CONCLUDED THAT FAHMI HAD ALSO PLANNED VISIT TO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THAT TO THE HAGUE AND DUTCH WERE NOW SEEKING TO FIND WHETHER BRUSSELS VISIT ALSO CANCELLED.

3. RUTTEN REQUESTED EMBASSY SEEK TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER WASHINGTON OR OUR EMBASSY IN CAIRO HAD ANY EXPLANATION. ONLY POSSIBILITY THAT OCCURRED TO DUTCH WAS SOME FURTHER COMPLICATION IN EGYPTIAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS.
GOULD

NOTE BY OC/T: GARBLED PORTION IN PARAGRAPH 1.
CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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To: SECSTATE WASHDC BRUSSELS CAIRO
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